

# Chicopee Register

COMMUNITY

## Castle of Knights approved for regional vaccination site

**By Dalton Zbierski**  
Staff Writer

CHICOPEE – While the upper level of the RiverMills Center – Chicopee’s senior center, at 5 West Main St. – continues to serve as a COVID-19 testing site, a property across town will soon function as a regional vaccination site.

The state Department of Public Health has approved the Castle of Knights on Memorial Drive as a vaccination destination, Mayor John Vieau reported on March 2.

The city originally planned to serve only Chicopee residents, but the clinic will also be made available to the communities of Holyoke, Granby and South Hadley.

“We’re partnering with their fire departments, their EMTs, their nurses; we’re working with the [Hampden County] Sheriff’s Department and students from [American International College], who are all trained professionally to administer vaccines,” Vieau said during his March 1 briefing.

The RiverMills testing site has been downsized slightly as a direct result of the slowing rate of COVID-19 cases in Chicopee. The site will offer testing from 8 a.m. until noon on Monday and Wednesday; Tuesday has been removed



from the schedule.

On March 2, there were 146 active cases of COVID-19 in Chicopee, according to Chicopeema.gov/CivicAlerts. Since the onset of the pandemic, 3,327 residents have tested positive; 3045 have recovered while 23 lost their lives.

On Jan. 4, the city reported 894 open cases. Two months later, the downward progression is evident.

Despite this, Vieau encouraged residents to continue following protocols such as mask wearing, social distancing and staying home when possible. He believes that the city has done a “tremendous job” adhering to safe practices thus far, but now is not the time to relent.

Testing also continues to be important. Currently, the RiverMills site is reporting 75

to 80 residents per day; Vieau described the operation’s immense value and how it has contributed to lessening case counts.

“I believe that one test and one vaccine at a time we’re going to rid COVID from the city of Chicopee. That’s how you do it,” Vieau said. “You identify those who carry it and force them to quarantine; it’s an order to quarantine. If you can get those people to quarantine, you get them out of the general population, and that’s going to reduce the spread.”

Chicopee has been approved to host a vaccination site, but doses are sparse. The city has the state’s approval to operate but no vaccines to offer at the current time.

“I can tell you how frustrating it’s been when there’s an unsurmountable demand

and no supply. That’s what it feels like, the wall that we’re up against,” said Vieau, who believes the Castle of the Knights is an ideal location but urges residents to schedule an appointment at the Eastfield Mall mass vaccination site in Springfield in the meantime.

Chicopee’s Vaccine Task Force continues to have its hands full. Led by Health Director Lisa Sanders and Fire Chief Dan Stamborski, the group is working to facilitate a safe, professional vaccine distribution operation.

Each Thursday, when new vaccine appointments become available, a dozen employees in City Hall are available to help eligible residents schedule an appointment. Senior citizens have remained a top

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COMMUNITY

## Chicopee Helping Chicopee

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COMMUNITY

## Charles Laboy encourages advocacy

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SCHOOLS

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SPORTS

## Pacers complete season with win

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COMMUNITY

## City Hall Auditorium reopens after more than a decade

*The auditorium was closed in 2004 due to structural insecurities*

**By Dalton Zbierski**  
Staff Writer

CHICOPEE – The city of Chicopee celebrated a milestone on the evening of March 2, as the newly-restored City Hall Auditorium hosted its first audience and public meeting since the early 2000s.

As part of the \$14.2 million Phase I of the City Hall Rehabilitation Project, ren-



As part of the \$14.2 million Phase I of the City Hall Revitalization Project, the City Hall Auditorium has reached substantial completion.

ovating the City Hall Auditorium was made a priority. Two years after work began, the space reached substantial completion.

“This is a very special day for the city of Chicopee,” said Mayor John Vieau during his briefing on March 2. “You’re looking at us remembering

See **CITY HALL** page 6

COMMUNITY

## Food Services awarded for ‘outstanding commitment’ serving youths

**By Dalton Zbierski**  
Staff Writer

CHICOPEE – Over the past 12 months, dedicated Chicopee Public Schools Food Services Department employees have braved the elements and an aura of uncertainty in the process of serving thousands of meals.

Late last month, their collective effort was recognized. The Food Services Department received the Helping Hands Award, courtesy of the Boys & Girls Club of Chicopee, for its outstanding work serving local youths.

“This specific award is for outstanding commitment and support of the mission, efforts, programs and services of the Boys & Girls Club of Chicopee. It’s very exciting for us to get that,” Food Services Director Melanie Wilk said.

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# Chicopee Helping Chicopee

By Dalton Zbierski  
Staff Writer

CHICOPEE – In the city of Chicopee, residents are taking it upon themselves to improve the community, making it accessible to everyone. “Chicopee Helping Chicopee” is one such Facebook group aiming to unite residents through positivity and camaraderie.

“Chicopee Helping Chicopee” is a group to bring the community together, to unite the residents of Chicopee, to say, ‘We have these issues, and it’s okay for us to have those issues, and we have a voice and will be heard,’” said organizer Dan Leatherwood.

Leatherwood believes that it’s more important than ever to put smiles on people’s faces, especially those of the city’s youngest residents. As he watched his nine-year-old son navigate the pandemic, he quickly learned that the unfamiliarity of the new normal is especially difficult for children.

For three weeks following Thanksgiving last year, Leatherwood coordinated Stockings for Kids, an effort to collect gifts and donations for local families in need. He explained what led him to take action.

“These COVID times have placed a lot of restrictions on families that make the holidays more difficult,” said Leatherwood. “Christmas time, especially, can be hard for a lot of families [with] low incomes. You add that into the fact that because of COVID there’s been loss of jobs, layoffs, firings and



TURLEY PUBLICATIONS STAFF PHOTOS BY DALTON ZBIERSKI

“Chicopee Helping Chicopee” founder Dan Leatherwood helped organize a vigil last month to support the family of missing 11-year-old Aiden Blanchard.

not having the hours that people would normally have.”

Leatherwood first posted on the Chicopee Helping Chicopee Facebook page the day after Thanksgiving. He was unsure of what to expect but was blown away by the response of community members.

For individuals who could not donate a gift or money, Leatherwood encouraged sim-

ply spreading word of the initiative, allowing everyone to contribute in their own ways.

By the time Christmas Day arrived, the project had delivered gifts to approximately 120 children. Leatherwood didn’t take credit; it was the work of many that made a difference.

“The community came together in a way that I always knew was possible, and I could not have been more proud by the

amount of help and support they offered,” said Leatherwood.

Ten days ago, Chicopee Helping Chicopee led a vigil for Aiden Blanchard, an 11-year-old resident, who remained missing as of March 3.

Moving forward, Leatherwood is excited to plan more community-oriented initiatives and welcomes participation. The Facebook group was established in order to offer residents a platform to be heard.

Leatherwood quoted singer Billy Gilman, who’s 2000 hit single ‘One Voice’ emphasized the belief that it takes only one voice to change the world. Through the community group, Leatherwood and his peers embody the song’s philosophy.

“If people want to know how to help or contribute, say something. If there’s something you don’t agree with or something you question, speak about it,” said Leatherman. “It doesn’t matter what the issue in Chicopee is or how controversial it is, if you see something, say something.”

Chicopee Helping Chicopee welcomes all residents. The group has only one rule: don’t be mean.

“The one thing that will not be allowed is any bullying, harassment or name-calling of any kind. It does not get your point across if you don’t agree with something. It only helps to shut down the voice,” said Leatherwood.

Dalton Zbierski can be reached at dzbierski@turley.com.

## Amvets Post 12 holds weekly dinner specials open to the public

CHICOPEE – Amvets Post 12, located at 754 Montgomery St. in Chicopee, is hosting weekly dinner specials which are open to the public from 4 to 6:30 p.m.

The menu is as follows:  
March 10 - Spaghetti Dinner  
March 18 - Corn Beef and Cabbage Dinner

March 25 - Ham Dinner  
Contact 413-315-8581 for tickets or menu of the week.

Weekly dinners will be continuing in April as well; menu TBD.

## Drive-through Polish food sale at St. Stan’s, March 6

CHICOPEE – St. Stanislaus Parish is having a drive-thru Polish food sale on Saturday, March 6, from 2-4 p.m. behind the school building on 534 Front St., Chicopee.

There will be cabbage pierogi for \$7.50 per dozen, cheese and potato pierogi for \$8 per dozen, and columbki \$10 per four-pack. Sales are limited to five of each item. Proceeds will benefit St. Stanislaus Parish.

# Bridal

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# Chicopee artist, educator Charles Laboy advocates for change

By Dalton Zbierski  
Staff Writer

CHICOPEE — Charles Laboy is more than merely an artist, educator or activist. Laboy, 28, is a difference-maker, and a role model for Chicopee youths looking to establish themselves during this strange, unpredictable time.

“I want to let a lot of Chicopee residents know that there are so many people working hard to make this area a better place. Chicopee is going in a positive direction. More of its citizens are becoming vocal, and it’s a lot to do with everyone working together,” said Laboy.

Following the death of George Floyd last May, a series of peaceful protests unfolded in the city of Chicopee. Whether it was outside of the Chicopee Police Department or on the Chicopee High School athletic field, Laboy became a leading voice, performing his music and delivering wisdom with powerful speeches.

During fragile moments, Laboy’s voice echoed; he urged residents of all walks of life to continue the pursuit of equality, emphasizing the need for change in Chicopee.

“I’ve always felt empowered to speak here. I’ve always felt that if anyone is going to listen here, it’s going to be the people who come out to these events here,” said Laboy. “I’ve always felt that there’s a chance for people to speak and have always been very involved with the community as well.”

Whether through working with the Cultural Council and Chair Johnny Miranda or communicating with the office of Mayor John Vieau, Laboy continues to advocate for social justice and awareness in Chicopee. He explained the significance of continuing the conversation, even when it means speaking in front of dozens of strangers during high octane rallies.

“I know that there are people within the schools and within the city who understand that there are systemic issues that occur and need to be acknowledged,” said Laboy. “With those kind of people behind me, it was a no-brainer that I would go out [and speak]. That’s an example of Chicopee always being willing to extend a hand if you’re someone who is proven to give back to the city.”

Laboy is currently the

school-aged director at Arbors Kids LLC, a family-owned operation at 999 Memorial Drive that offers child care services and before and after school programs.

Long before he entered his



In memory of George Floyd, Charles Laboy takes a knee in front of the Chicopee Police Department last summer.

current field or took to the podium to discuss racial equality, Laboy spent the early stages of



Charles Laboy, a Chicopee artist, activist and educator, speaks to an audience during a rally last June in front of the Chicopee Police Department.



Charles Laboy is known throughout Chicopee for his dedication to the community and willingness to speak publicly on difficult issues such as racial inequality.

his childhood in Hartford before moving to Chicopee. Once in the city, he attended Edward Bellamy Middle School and Chicopee Comprehensive High School.

As a teenager, Laboy was consumed by his love for music. It was in middle school that he first picked up a microphone and rocked a stage.

“The first time I ever performed was when I was in eighth grade at Bellamy; they used to have this multi-cultural fest run by Laura Demakis and Sonia Robles, who were teachers at the time,” Laboy said. “I spoke to [Demakis] recently and she said it was one of the best performances they had and that it en-

couraged a lot of other students to perform after the fact.”

Laboy used music as an outlet, but his affinity for the art form lessened as he grew older. It was during the pandemic that his passion was relit.

“With the height of the marches last year, and with everything getting locked down, I didn’t have an outlet, really, to kind of work through some of the feelings that were erupting inside of me. I kind of used music as an outlet, which I hadn’t done in some time,” said Laboy, who attended UMass Amherst and Springfield Technical Community College.

Laboy believes that art is one

of the strongest and most proficient ways in which one can take a stand and people can be united. Regardless of the art form, it’s the message and sense of togetherness that is most important.

Currently, Laboy is lobbying to bring more programs back into play to unite residents of all ages.

“[People] always tell me that they’d like to see more things happening. I really want to help other people who are creating projects to get the kids out and able to enjoy art and music and other projects however I can.”

Moving forward, Laboy is encouraged by the “young blood” that is entering and becoming more involved in Chicopee politics and government. Over the past 12 months, he has observed and applauds the community’s heightened awareness to what is happening locally.

Be it by supporting a new business or working with local youths, Laboy urges all residents to make a positive impact. One never knows whose life they will improve with simple words of encouragement.

“I definitely encourage kids to continue to practice, find your medium,” said Laboy. “Once you find your medium, keep working at it. Don’t get discouraged – continue to work through and learn each day that you’re practicing.”

Dalton Zbierski can be reached at dzbierski@turley.com.

## St. Patrick’s Parade Committee launches March Money Madness fundraiser

CHICOPEE — The Chicopee St. Patrick’s Parade Committee is once again selling “March Money Madness” calendars to benefit the committee’s activities.

Calendars are \$10 each and give the purchaser 31 chances to win. A drawing is held every day during the month of March. Prizes range from \$50 to \$300.

Proceeds from calendar sales will support the committee’s current expenses and future activities. Although the 2020 and 2021 Holyoke St. Patrick’s Day Parades were canceled, rent for storing the Colleen’s float and oth-

er expenses still need to be paid. The committee has also begun planning events leading up to the 2022 parade, which promises to be bigger and better than ever.

Calendars can be purchased by calling Haley at (413) 426-6825, or by contacting any committee member. More information is also available on the committee’s Facebook page.

Watch the Committee’s Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/chicopeespc/> beginning on March 1 for results of the raffle drawings, which will be posted daily.

The Chicopee St. Patrick’s Parade

Committee strives to promote Irish pride and culture through its many events. For over 65 years, the committee has organized the annual Colleen Contest and Coronation Ball, constructed the Colleen’s award-winning float for the Holyoke St. Patrick’s Parade, and awarded scholarships to young women who plan to further their education at a college or university.

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## EDITORIAL

### Here's a return to normalcy: It's tax time!

February has drawn to a close and that means it's time to turn the page to no one's favorite subject – taxes.

Some well-organized residents no doubt have already filed their federal and state returns in time for the first day of processing, which was about two weeks ago. The rest of us have until April 15. Take note of that date, because unless the U.S. Treasury Department or Mass. Dept. of Revenue make an unexpected change, the extended July deadline offered last year because of the pandemic is no longer an option.

Hey, we've all been wishing for a return to normalcy, right? Maybe not exactly what you had in mind, but it might make you feel better to consider this a step in the direction of life in a post-pandemic world.

Whether you prepare your returns yourself, pay an accountant or other professional, or have a friend or relative handle your tax filing, here are a few tips that could make this annual rite a little easier and perhaps help save you money:

First and foremost, get organized. Dust off your copy of last year's return. If you don't have it and can't get a copy from your preparer, you can order it from the IRS. If you used one of the many online tax prep software programs, it's likely archived there.

Gather all of your tax-related documents such as W-2s, 1099s, and other forms you need to prove the income you earned, including Social Security, pension payments, and unemployment benefits, and any withholding you selected (give yourself a pat on the back if you had taxes withheld from the latter two because chances are you'll get a bigger refund).

If you received federal stimulus payments (either one or both issued in 2020), the good news is they are not counted as taxable income. However, if you received less than the full amount in either or both of the two rounds of stimulus, that could impact your 2020 return, so you'll want to be able to reference that information.

Did you keep all your receipts for charitable contributions, work expenses eligible for deductions, and the miles you logged on your vehicle for work? If yes, give yourself another pat on the back. If not, you might want to invest some time in getting that together. Documentation of student loan interest paid last year and any debt that was charged off translate into credits and liabilities, too, so you'll want that at your fingertips.

This is just a starter list. To get a comprehensive checklist of everything you'll need to be ready for tax return preparation, go to [irs.gov](https://irs.gov) or contact your tax prep professional.

We have a resource for you that many might be surprised to learn about — AARP. Did you know the AARP TaxAide program provides IRS-trained volunteers to prepare returns for anyone who asks. Free of charge. This is NOT limited to members or even seniors in general. Taxpayers of any age can use this valuable service. They even handle returns for eligible small businesses. The only limitation is this program is intended for those in the middle-income bracket and lower. There is an income ceiling and those who exceed it are not likely eligible for the service.

For everyone else, it's a well-regarded service that includes e-filing (which you want; It means faster processing and less time to get a refund if you're due one). AARP suspended this program just about a year ago in response to the pandemic because the service was provided in-person at libraries, senior centers and other public facilities. Since then, they have had time to plan and adjust and AARP TaxAide now offers drop-off and

See **TAX** page 5

## GUEST COLUMN

### The Garden Lady takes on your houseplant questions

Elise, who enjoys reading the column from Brookfield, posed this question to the Garden Lady: "I have a number of scented geraniums in my sunroom that I dug up from my herb garden last summer. They were looking good for awhile, but within the last month their leaves have begun to turn brown. It seems to start with the older foliage, beginning with the leaf margins and working its way in. I keep picking off the bad leaves but more follow suit. Do you have any suggestions as to how I should remedy this?"

Scented geraniums were among the first herbs I ever grew! In fact, at 18 I had a windowsill of them in my bedroom. I loved how they would emit a heavenly fragrance whenever the leaves were rubbed between my thumb and forefinger. Scents like lemon, nutmeg, coconut and rose. Fast forward a few decades and I am blessed with a collection of scented geraniums in the greenhouse at Old Sturbridge Village! Although they looked great a couple of weeks ago, they too have started to show some brown leaves, exactly in the manner you explain.

My first thought is in regards to watering. You see, geraniums can be finicky when it comes to moisture. If you let them get too dry their leaves will brown; too wet and the same thing happens. Sometimes looking at the soil and watering if it "looks" dry isn't the best thing to do, and honestly, in my haste, that is what I have been doing lately. I am going back to the "finger test" and only water when the soil is dry to the touch, a few inches into the pot; maybe that will help.

Another point of interest is in regards to chlorinated water. There is some research that indicates geraniums are sensitive to chlorine. If your tap water is heavily chlorinated I would recommend that you fill a watering can with water and let it sit for 24 hours. The chlorine will dissipate before watering. Likewise, you can also run tap water through a charcoal type water filter to rid it of chlorine.

Lastly, our geraniums may be hungry. Beginning in late February and early March, scented geraniums begin to initiate flower buds and require additional nutrients to do so.

I'll start feeding with a liquid fertilizer at half strength every two weeks or so to support that need. Hopefully by adopting some of this advice your geraniums will begin to look a bit happier and mine will too!

Frances has a beautiful potted cyclamen and is curious how this particular plant is propagated. "My mother always comments about the beauty of my pink cyclamen. Can I remove a leaf, insert it into the soil and expect it will root, as would an African violet's?"

Florist Cyclamen (*Cyclamen persicum*) is a delightful indoor plant that flowers during the winter months. Its quarter-sized blooms in red, pink and white are unique in that the petals are bent back, reflexed even, and held above pretty, heart-shaped, silver-margined leaves. There are varying types available with fancy flowers and intricately patterned foliage.

The cyclamen plant is tuberous and unfortunately is best propagated by seed or by division of its fibrous roots. Usually this task is left to the experts who are best able to deal with erratic germination and roots susceptible to rot.

Recently I became the proud owner of my very first cyclamen (thanks, Mom!). It's always fun to get to learn about the life cycle of a new plant. With the cyclamen's bloom time during the winter, it has a period of dormancy mid spring through the end of summer when it's leaves will yellow and shed, and it will demand next to no water. This time frame is opposite of what we are used to with our perennial flowers that bloom during the summer and go dormant during the winter. In late August, begin watering and leaves will sprout anew before blooming begins during the fall.

*Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For the last 28 years, she has held the position of staff horticulturalist at Old Sturbridge Village. She enjoys growing food as well as flowers. Have a question for her? Email it to [ekennedy@turley.com](mailto:ekennedy@turley.com) with "Gardening Question" in the subject line.*



### Letters to the Editor

Letters to the editor should be 250 words or less in length. No unsigned or anonymous opinions will be published. We require letter writers to include his or her town of residence and home telephone number. We must authenticate authorship prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit or withhold any submissions deemed to be libelous or contain unsubstantiated allegations, personal attacks, defamation of character and offensive language. All unknown or alleged facts and quotations offered by the author need to cite credible, unbiased sources.

Send letters to: *The Chicopee Register*,

24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069 or email [chicopeeregister@turley.com](mailto:chicopeeregister@turley.com).

The deadline for submissions is Friday at noon.

## WE CARE ABOUT YOUR NEWS!

*The Chicopee Register* welcomes submissions of news in or related to Chicopee and its residents. Our "People News," is filled with submitted engagement announcements, wedding announcements, birth announcements, your new baby or news about your 25th or 50th anniversary celebrations. Please e-mail correspondence along with a photo to [chicopeeregister@turley.com](mailto:chicopeeregister@turley.com) or send it to: Chicopee Register, c/o Turley Publications, 24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069.

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# Chicopee High School: Selected students for the month of February

CHICOPEE – Chicopee High School Student of the Month award aims to recognize students for their outstanding contributions to the CHS community. Whether it be due to academics, extracurricular activities, or upstanding character, these young people stand out for their accomplishments and commitment to excellence. On behalf of the administration and staff, it is with great honor and Pacer pride that we present the selected students for the month of February, 2021.

**Paola Torres Nieves, 9th grade**

Her work ethic and compassion make her a perfect candidate for this award. She tries 100% on all her assignments, and when things get difficult she persists. She is kind and empathetic to her peers. She demonstrates maturity and models inclusion even in the remote setting.

**Keiara Hawes, 10th grade**

Keiara Hawes is a remarkable student who actively participates in class.

She does all of her assignments with thought and care. During class, she responds to other students’ responses, poses thought-provoking questions, and has an interesting take on the issues we are studying. She is kind and reflective and able to hear perspectives different from her own.

**Enas Hamid, 11th grade**

Enas is a superb student, who is always ready to learn and contributes thoughtfully to class no matter the obstacles students may be facing. Having her in my class has made the first half of the year go by much more smoothly.

**Ann Mary Saez, 12th grade**

Ann Mary is a consistent and reliable student. She has produced exemplar projects during Technology/Engineering this year. She should consider patenting some of her creative ideas! During a less-than-ideal senior year, she has excelled despite the obstacles.

**VACCINE from page 1**

priority. “That was the whole mission and plan since Day 1 – to protect our older adults,” said Vieau. “It’s the reason why we took all the precautions that we did as a city, why we wear masks, why we social distance, because the most vulnerable are the older adults in our community and those with underlying medical conditions.” A focus has been placed on individuals who live in senior housing. Arrangements are being made for residents in such complexes to be vaccinated. As the city nears the one-year mark of

battling COVID-19, Vieau feels as though major strides have been taken. Whereas last year in March, the city did not have an adequate amount of PPE or sanitizer, such items are now widely available. Vieau noted that President Joe Biden reported on Wednesday that enough vaccines will exist by the end of May to meet the demand of all those who request them. Until then, patience is key. “I can’t make vaccines. If I could go get it, I would have gone and got it yesterday. If I could send a freezer truck, I would have. It’s just not available, so we’re trying to tell people to be patient,” said Vieau.

**FOOD from page 1**

It isn’t often that food services employees are acknowledged for their dedication by outside entities – a reality that hasn’t lessened their passion for contributing to the well-being of Chicopee students. Nor has it prevented them from assuming added responsibility during the pandemic. Since March of 2020, the department has set up grab-and-go sites at schools throughout the district. Whether in blistering summer heat or frigid winter temperatures, food service employees have made themselves available amid difficult circumstances. Chicopee families rely on the meals that the department provides. And Wilk couldn’t be more proud of her staff. “They might be tired – I know they are. They’re really working so, so hard, but we get comments from families all the time on how kind the workers are. They always have smiles on their faces. People have bought them gifts in thanks for what they’ve been doing,” Wilk said. As with many operations, school food services has adapted to the constantly changing protocols and regulations that have defined the pandemic. Even as schedules and locations have changed, employees continue to do their jobs. “They’re very dedicated people who do this because they care about feeding kids,” Wilk said. “It’s not just a paycheck for them, or else they’d be gone. It’s a lot of work right now, but they just care so much. I think the feedback from the families kind of drives them to keep doing it.” When school buildings closed again late last year and students returned to virtual learning, 25 food service employees were furloughed. On Feb. 22, however, the staff was brought back again, with the exception of several employees who elected to remain furloughed for the entirety of the school year. When hybrid learning resumed last

month, Wilk considered cutting back on the grab-and-go sites throughout the district. But site managers made it clear that the need still existed, so no changes were made, and no sites were redacted. At the Boys & Girls Club of Chicopee, school food service workers are considered unsung heroes. Club Executive Director Jason Reed expressed his gratitude for the department, adding that offering the department an award was the least the club could do to say ‘thank you.’ “This recognition is given to an agency that shares similar mission and values that we do. [Food Services] has been an integral partner of ours for many years. Their support this year, both with meal service and programmatically, has been instrumental in us being able to operate and continue serving our members,” Reed said. Reed credited ChicopeeFRESH, the district’s farm-to-school program, for its positive impact on club members. A newly-awarded grant will allow ChicopeeFRESH to attain a food truck that will likely be in service by this summer. Next week, the district will celebrate National Breakfast Week, and food services will offer a variety of special giveaways for students. When normalcy resumes, Wilk feels strongly that the department will be able to operate more efficiently than ever before, building on the adjustments it made this year. In the meantime, families can support food services simply by receiving meals. “Honestly, the best way to support our department is to come out and get meals because we are a self-sufficient department,” said Wilk. “We’re not part of the main school department budget, and we get reimbursed for those meals. Every single meal that we hand out, we get reimbursed from the government, so that is what keeps our program alive.” Dalton Zbierski can be reached at dzbierski@turley.com.

# St. Stanislaus School to host drive-through Irish dinner

CHICOPEE – St. Stanislaus School will be hosting a drive-through Irish dinner on Saturday, March 20 from 3:30-5:30 p.m. Each meal costs \$10 per person and includes corned beef, cabbage, carrots, potatoes, Irish soda bread, and dessert. There will also be a variety of cookies for sale that can be purchased by the half dozen for \$3 or whole dozen for \$5.

To purchase a ticket and schedule a pick up time, please call the school office at (413) 592-5135. Tickets can be reserved ahead of time and paid for at pick up. Pick up is between 3:30 and 5:30 in the back parking lot of St. Stanislaus School at 534 Front St. in Chicopee. Masks are required while on school property. Proceeds will help benefit the school education fund.

# RiverMills Center transportation services

CHICOPEE – The Chicopee Council on Aging’s Transportation Department is doing emergency rides to supermarkets, pharmacies and doctor’s appointment during COVID-19, for Chicopee seniors 60 and older. Transportation service is available Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. until 2 p.m., for Chicopee’s older adults. For reservations, please call 413-536-5733. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the Chicopee COA follows all CDC Safety Standards and adheres to all mandates from the City and State of Massachusetts. A \$10,000 grant from WestMass ElderCare has allowed the senior center to expand its transportation offerings.

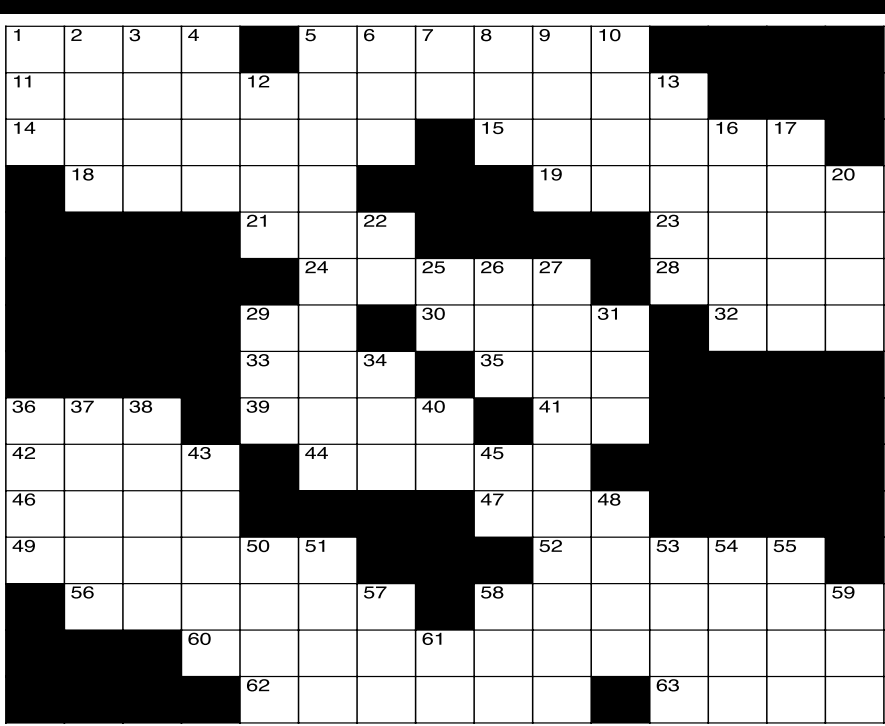
# Tuesday yoga at RiverMills Center

CHICOPEE – The Chicopee Council on Aging will be offering Zoom Yoga on Tuesdays at 9:30 a.m. Caitlin Lavin, Certified Yoga Instructor, will be leading classes. These classes are free and the Zoom links are available on RiverMills Center’s Facebook page or by calling (413) 534-3698.

**TAX from page 4**

virtual service using secure servers that protect your Social Security number and other vital personal information. There are some in-person appoint-

ments, but none in our immediate area. For all the information about that program, go to [taxaide.aarpfoundation.org](http://taxaide.aarpfoundation.org). So, are you ready to “render unto Caesar?” If not, make it a priority. April 15 will be here before you know it.



- CLUES ACROSS**

  - 1. One of Noah’s sons
  - 5. Openings
  - 11. Rising from the dead
  - 14. Expressions for humorous effect
  - 15. North American country
  - 18. Flowed over
  - 19. Tags
  - 21. Long-lasting light bulb
  - 23. Off-Broadway theater award
  - 24. Khoikhoi peoples
  - 28. Beloved movie pig
  - 29. South Dakota
  - 30. Tai language
  - 32. Get free of
  - 33. Afflict
  - 35. Transmits genetic information from DNA
  - 36. Commercials
- CLUES DOWN**

  - 1. A title of respect in India
  - 2. His and \_\_\_
  - 3. Employee stock ownership plan
  - 4. A type of bond
- CLUES ACROSS**

  - 39. Digits (abbr.)
  - 41. Expression of sympathy
  - 42. Bleats
  - 44. Swiss Nobel Peace Prize winner
  - 46. Vegetable
  - 47. Turf
  - 49. Disorganized in character
  - 52. Takes
  - 56. Rules over
  - 58. More fervid
  - 60. Sweet drink
  - 62. Cry loudly
  - 63. A friendly nation
- CLUES DOWN**

  - 5. Acting as if you are
  - 6. Affirmative
  - 7. Not caps
  - 8. Type of medication
  - 9. Monetary unit
  - 10. Private school in New York
  - 12. Small stream
  - 13. A person of wealth
  - 16. Exclude
  - 17. Someone who vouches for you
  - 20. Vegetable part
  - 22. Gov’t lawyer
  - 25. Term to address a woman
  - 26. Swiss river
  - 27. About senator
  - 29. \_\_\_ Paulo, city
  - 31. Native American tribe
  - 34. “Titanic” actor
  - 36. Campaign for students’ rights
- CLUES ACROSS**

  - 37. Capital of Senegal
  - 38. Slang for military leader
  - 40. Football’s big game
  - 43. Women who threw themselves on funeral pyres
  - 45. Equally
  - 48. Forest animal
  - 50. Heavy stoves
  - 51. Releasing hormone (abbr.)
  - 53. Song
  - 54. Type of pickle
  - 55. Offer in return for money
  - 57. Soviet Socialist Republic
  - 58. Burns wood (abbr.)
  - 59. Beloved singer Charles
  - 61. Three-toed sloth







# Sports

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## ICE HOCKEY

# Pacers complete season with win



Spencer Gorczyca takes a faceoff.



Anthony Bartolo heads up the ice with the puck.



PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPOTOS.COM

Trevor Seidell-Poirer gets away from the opposition.

CHICOPEE – The Chicopee High School hockey team completed its regular season last week. The abbreviated season included 11 games, mostly against familiar opponents from the Fay-Wright leagues. The Pacers went 3-7-1 including a split against rival Chicopee Comprehensive.

## MIAA

# Wrestling still not cleared for competitions as spring looms

By Gregory A. Scibelli  
gscibelli@turley.com

REGION – In an effort to fit every sport into the modified high school seasons, the Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association decided to move wrestling from the winter to the spring season. With football occurring during the Fall 2 season, it was decided wrestling should take place during the spring.

However, at a recent meeting of MIAA Wrestling Committee, it was announced the Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs had still not cleared the sport of wrestling for Level 3 activity, which allows for competitions to occur. If wrestling is not allowed to have level 3 activity, meets cannot occur.

In the meeting, it was reported that football will be observed during the next three weeks. Due to the close contact involved in football, the EEA will be looking at the sport to compare it to the close contact that will occur in wrestling. Spring sports are set to begin in late April, early May.

According to the minute of the committee meeting, if the EEA makes the decision to move wrestling into the level 3 status, then modifications for the sport will be presented for approval by the MIAA.

In addition to observation of football, the status of vaccination in the Commonwealth will also play into the lifting of restrictions at the state level. It was recently announced large sports venues like Fenway Park would be allowed to open beginning March 22 at 12 percent capacity as part of the beginning of Phase 4 of the state's re-opening plan.

## AUTO RACING

# More racers gearing up for modified series

SEEKONK – When the Tri Track Open Modified Series season takes the green flag on May 1 at Monadnock Speedway, the field will be stacked full of talent. One of the talented stars is rising New Hampshire racer Matthew Kimball, who is a former Mini Stock champion and currently a competitor in the Sportsman Modified division at multiple tracks in the Granite State.

Kimball, who does have limited starts with Tri Track, is hoping to be able to run the entire six-race slate in 2021. His most important goal will be to be consistent, learn more about the Tour-Type Modifieds, and come home with solid top-10 finishes. He also plans to compete full-time at Monadnock in the Apex Racing No. 11 in the track's Sportsman Modifieds and hopes to chase the NASCAR Division I National Championship, if the first few weeks of the season go well.

"It's always good to try and get your name out there and this is a great opportunity to do that," Kimball said. "We want to win races, but we are going to go race-by-race, and see what the schedules look like, so we don't have conflicts. We're going to take this year step-by-step. We would like to finish top-10 in the Tri Track points."

Kimball, who won the Mini Stock title at Monadnock in 2018, started his career in go-karts, and moved to the Mini Stocks at the age of 13. From there, he sat behind the wheel of a modified at full speed for the first time at age 15, and the experience was different from anything



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Matt Kimball is another hopeful to win the Tri Track this year.

he had dealt with before -- but he found success quickly.

"My dad had a few championships before I took over and it didn't take me too long to adapt to it," Kimball said. "I won my first race just four weeks into the season. I practiced a lot before getting into a race -- ran it towards the end of the year, and during practices, we went out as much as possible. Once you get comfortable in the car, it's like driving any other race car."

Kimball competes regularly at Monadnock, Hudson Speedway, Claremont Speedway and occasionally Lee USA Speedway, and plans to focus on Monadnock full-time this season, along with Tri Track. Driving the No. 50 machine, Kimball has learned the ropes of the Modified over the last few years, but knows he needs to continue to soak

up the environment to be successful at the level of Tri Track competition. He finished sixth and seventh in the two Tri Track races on Monadnock's high-banks last year.

"It's a pretty big difference racing-wise from a Mini Stock to a Modified, but it just takes a few laps to get used to the throttle and the power," Kimball said. "The biggest difference is the tone of the race. It's a lot different trying to save your tires, versus a crate car, where you go hard the whole time. I still have to figure it out. I have to figure out adjustments to make it last more than 80 laps, so we are there at the end. A lot of it is experience -- you don't really see many guys jump in a tour car and just be there at the end."

He's excited to continue to race

See RACING page 8



# Blue Sox name new general manager

HOLYOKE – Valley Blue Sox President Fred Ciaglo announced the hiring of Kate Avard as the team’s new General Manager.

Avard, 22, will be returning to the Blue Sox organization after interning with the team during the 2016 season. The Easthampton, MA native, originally from Holyoke, is a graduate of the University of Massachusetts Amherst where she earned a B.S. degree in Sport Management from the Isenberg School of Management and a B.S. degree studying kinesiology from the School of Public Health and Health Sciences.

“We’re very excited to appoint Kate as our new General Manager,” said Ciaglo. “Having previously served as one of our interns, she

knows the culture and community-oriented mission of our organization. Given her education in sport management, Kate will bring strong business fundamentals, creativity and a passion for baseball to the Blue Sox front office.”

While at UMass Amherst, Avard served as the Intramural Special Events Assistant and held multiple internships within the Athletic Department. After graduating from UMass Amherst, Avard enrolled in graduate courses studying athletic training and emergency medicine at Boston University.

Avard is eager to return to MacKenzie Stadium and expand her role with the organization.

“Growing up in Holyoke, I attended many Holyoke Giants

games, then later Blue Sox games, with my family which is where I fell in love with the sport of baseball,” said Avard. I later interned with the team and saw firsthand the positive influence the team had on the local families and local community, similar to what I had personally experienced growing up,” she added.

“The Blue Sox reputation has grown tremendously over the past few years, making the team a staple throughout Western Mass, said Avard. “Stepping into the role of General Manager, I hope I am able to build upon the relationship the organization has with the community and grow the team in the coming years.”

# Nominees for volleyball hall announced

HOLYOKE – The list of 25 nominees for the International Volleyball Hall of Fame 2021 Induction has been announced and the Fan Vote presented by Mizuno is now officially open through Feb. 28.

Fans can vote daily for as many nominees as they feel are deserving of Induction. The top 5 nominees selected by the public will comprise a “fans’ ballot” that will be tallied along with the official selection committee ballots to pick the Class of 2021 inductees. “These 25 nominees represent 11 different countries and some of the biggest names in volleyball from the past two decades and beyond.” said George Mulry, Executive Director of the International Volleyball Hall of Fame. “Having to skip the 2020 class of Inductees because of COVID has created a bit of a backlog that’s resulted in perhaps the strongest list of nominees top to bottom we’ve ever had. I think it’s going to be really hard for people to narrow down their Fan Vote selections but it will also make this year’s Induction that much more special for the selected class.” The new class of Inductees will be announced in March and the 2021 Induction Celebration is scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 23 and will be live streamed for anyone that cannot travel to Holyoke. Induction Celebration tickets will go on sale when the new class is announced.

The nominees are: Taismary Aguero, Dr. Rolf Andresen, Manuela Benelli, Gianfranco Briani, Julius Brink and Jonas Reckermann, Dr. Gabriel Cherebetiu, Sergio Dutra Santos, Giovane Gavio, Linda Hanley, Barbara Jelic-Ruzic, Pieter Joon, Siegfried Kohler, Peter Lange, Andre Meyer, Samuele Papi, Carmelo Pittera, Bernardo Rezende, Todd Rogers, Yumilka Ruiz, Ricardo Santos, Clay Stanley, Sergey Tetyuhkhin, Logan Tom, Fernanda Venturini, and Elaine Youngs.

# Hampshire association seeking umpires

REGION – The Hampshire Franklin Baseball Umpire Association (HFBUA) is planning to conduct classes for the 2021 baseball season following all recommended COVID-19 protocols including the possibility of on-line instruction. The association covers umpiring of scholastic baseball for all of Hampshire and Franklin county schools registered under MIAA and several other baseball leagues in the area. If you are interested in umpiring baseball or obtaining further information regarding the upcoming classes please contact Roger Booth - Secretary/Treasurer of the HFBUA via email at quilthunter@comcast.net.

# Sign-ups now available for 2021 Relics softball

LUDLOW – The Western Mass Relics has opened registration for the 2021 Senior Softball Season. The Silver Division (age 50 to 64) has filled 36 of the 112 spots and the Gold Division (65-and-up) has filled 32 of the 96 spots. The registrations are accepted on a first come first serve basis. All our games are played at the Fish & Game in Ludlow. For further information or to register go to <http://www.westernmassrelics.org>.

# Free introduction to manufacturing offered

*Unemployed due to COVID-19 targeted*

**By Eileen Kennedy**  
*Staff writer*

COVID-19 has torn through the economy as companies had to dial back their services or products in the wake of the pandemic, change their business models and furlough or lay off employees left and right to make it. Others just shut down entirely. While some people have been able to find work, there are plenty of workers who haven’t been able to, and the state wants to help.

For those who have lost their jobs due to COVID-19 and remain unemployed, the MassHire Career Centers in Holyoke and Springfield are offering free virtual manufacturing training classes. They will help participants learn about career manufacturing, basic manufacturing standards, manufacturing processes, basic blueprint reading, quality control processes and tips on teamwork. The career centers used to be known as the state’s One-Stop Shop for employment needs for those looking for work and employers.

Participants must have a high school diploma, Internet connectivity with streaming capability, be unemployed due to COVID-19 and have a device such as a laptop, desktop computer or tablet to access the internet. It is also compatible with cell phones. Instructor coaching is also provided.

“The last two governors have been very invested in what they can do to maintain or grow manufacturing as an industry in general,” said

MassHire Career Center Holyoke President and CEO David Gadaire said.

With COVID-19 translating to job losses for many, it was decided to target those who have lost their jobs as layoffs and business closures began last March as restaurants, gyms and other businesses were temporarily closed and then able to start up in reduced capacities, he said.

“We think many people wrongly have this picture of what manufacturing is all about, with idea that it’s dirty,” he said. “But many manufacturers have pristine processes, for which mathematics is needed and their manufacturing is really a science.

He said starting wages are good and it’s possible to make a sustainable wage and move through company ranks to get ahead.

“The classes are a guide, to counsel them as to what to expect in manufacturing, the kind of math needed and so they candidly will know what’s going on,” he said. “It’s also designed to get people off unemployment and help them move into what could be a good career.”

The classes are self-paced and offer tips on how to work as a team member, how to address concerns that come up on the manufacturing floor and problem resolution, Gadaire said.

Businessman Joseph Peters, a member of MassHire Hampden County Workforce Board, has been in manufacturing for decades, and decided to test drive the classes to be sure potential students would get useful information about manufacturing if they took them.

“It provides exposure to man-

ufacturing machines, safety protocols among other things,” said Peters, who owned Universal Plastics in Holyoke up to a few years ago, and who remains active in the company. “I think someone who has gone through this would be looked at differently than someone who hadn’t taken it when it comes to the hiring process. I would be much more interested in someone who had taken this course. Our company is looking for people right now and this would give someone a lot of advantages.”

Peters said these days many young students are not exposed to manufacturing at all and are unfamiliar with it either generally or specifically. That exposure differs from when he was young, when many people knew people in manufacturing even if their immediate family wasn’t involved, he said. The classes provide that exposure if they’ve never had it in school or in the workforce,” he said.

“He’s lived manufacturing and breathed it his whole life, and in my mind that makes his opinion about it very credible,” said Gadaire of Peters’ opinion that it gives potential job seekers a way into manufacturing.

For more information or to register for the classes contact Kate Smith at Masshire Holyoke at 413-322-7162 or [Ksmith@masshire-holyoke.org](mailto:Ksmith@masshire-holyoke.org) or Yvette Jackson at Masshire Springfield at 413-858-2827 or [yjackson@masshirespringfield.org](mailto:yjackson@masshirespringfield.org).

The funding for the classes was provided by the state Office of Housing and Economic Development

**RACING** from page 7

with the talented field Tri Track offers, and is looking forward to visiting Seekonk Speedway for the first time in his career. Tri Track’s 2021 schedule includes two stops at Monadnock, his home-track, two at Seekonk and two at Star Speedway, where Kimball has limited laps.

“It’s a lot different racing against the big names, but they were in the same shoes we were at one point in their career,” Kimball said. “I’ve never even been to Seekonk, so that will be tough. But I feel confident in Monadnock and I’ve won at Star in the Mini Stock. The difference at Star with a car with a lot more power will require a different line and everything. It should be a lot of figuring out different setups this year.”

With support from his family and friends, and his sponsors, Kimball wouldn’t be able to drive on the track. His sponsors include APEX Racing, KRJ Jewelry, Edmunds Ace Hardware, Peterboro Tools, Tyler’s Small Engines, Trends of Fashion, Birch Wood Inn, Beangroup and more. He’s lucky to have a stout list of supports behind him to help him compete at a high-level.

“I’m just going to be playing it by ear and get the cars ready and go for Monadnock, I’ll be running three races in that same weekend,” Kimball said. “Between the two Sportsman Modified races and the Tri Track race, it will be a busy weekend. I’m also going to be able to race my dad, who will run our family car in a few races this year. I’ve beaten him three times, and he’s beaten me once, so hopefully I can keep the good streak going. I’m just hoping to be there at the end of each race this year.”

Kimball is just one of more than 15 drivers who have already registered to compete in the entire Tri Track slate for the 2021 season. Registration is open and teams can register at [TriTrackModifieds.com/team-info](http://TriTrackModifieds.com/team-info). Teams have the option to either sign-up for the whole season or just one single race.

The Tri Track Open Modified Series will visit three historic New England tracks, twice each, to make up the six-race schedule for 2021. The series will stop at Monadnock Speedway in Winchester, New Hampshire on May 1 and August 14, while visiting Star Speedway in Epping, New Hampshire on May 22 and July 24. The anticipated return to Seekonk Speedway, scheduled for June 30 and October 23, will mark two staple events -- the \$10,000 to win Open Wheel Wednesday in June and the Haunted Hundred to wrap the season.

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**Chicopee Register**



PUBLIC NOTICES

Commonwealth of  
Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Hampden Probate and  
Family Court  
50 State Street  
Springfield, MA 01103  
(413)748-7758  
Docket No. HD21P0309EA  
Estate of:  
Robert Edward Czepiel  
Also known as:  
Robert E Czepiel  
Date of Death: 11/02/2020  
CITATION ON  
PETITION FOR  
FORMAL  
ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons:  
A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Sallie T Czepiel** of Enfield, CT requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: **Sallie T Czepiel** of Enfield, CT be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in an **unsupervised administration**.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**  
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 03/25/2021.**

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

**UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)**

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. **Barbara M Hyland**, First Justice of this Court.  
Date: February 25, 2021  
**Rosemary A Saccomani**  
Register of Probate  
03/05/2021

Commonwealth of  
Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Hampden Probate and  
Family Court  
50 State Street  
Springfield, MA 01103  
(413)748-7758  
Docket No. HD21P0309EA  
Estate of:  
Robert Edward Czepiel  
Also known as:  
Robert E Czepiel,  
Bob Czepiel  
Date of Death: 11/02/2020  
CITATION ON  
PETITION FOR  
FORMAL  
ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons:  
A Petition for **S/A- Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Richard David Czepiel** of Holyoke, MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: **Richard David Czepiel** of Holyoke, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in an **unsupervised administration**.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**  
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 03/25/2021.**

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

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WITNESS, Hon. **Barbara M Hyland**, First Justice of this Court.  
Date: February 25, 2021  
**Rosemary A Saccomani**  
Register of Probate  
03/05/2021

**ALDEN CREDIT UNION ANNUAL MEETING**  
Alden Credit Union will hold its annual meeting on **Wednesday, March 17, 2021 at 5 p.m.** via phone conference. For further details please contact, Jennifer Faustino at 413-536-0475 ext. 107  
03/05, 03/12/2021

Commonwealth of  
Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Hampden Probate and  
Family Court  
50 State Street  
Springfield, MA 01103  
(413)748-7758  
Docket No. HD15P1992EA  
Estate of:  
Donald Ralph Croisetiere  
Also known as:  
Donald R Croisetiere  
Date of Death: 05/06/2012  
CITATION ON  
PETITION FOR  
FORMAL  
ADJUDICATION  
To all interested persons:  
A Petition for **S/A- Late and Limited Formal Testacy and/or Appointment** has been filed by **Donna D. Croisetiere** of Holyoke, MA requesting that the Court enter

a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: **Donna D. Croisetiere** of Holyoke, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in an **unsupervised administration**.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**  
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 04/01/2021.**

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

**UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)**

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. **Barbara M Hyland**, First Justice of this Court.  
Date: February 25, 2021  
**Rosemary A Saccomani**  
Register of Probate  
03/05/2021

Commonwealth of  
Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Hampden Probate and  
Family Court  
50 State Street  
Springfield, MA 01103  
(413)748-7758  
Docket No. HD21P0335EA  
Estate of:  
Julia B Forsythe  
Date of Death: 01/05/2021  
CITATION ON  
PETITION FOR  
FORMAL  
ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons:  
A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Cynthia L Forsythe** of Chicopee MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: **Cynthia L Forsythe** of Chicopee MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in an **unsupervised administration**.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**  
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of**

**03/25/2021.**  
This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

**UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)**

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. **Barbara M Hyland**, First Justice of this Court.  
Date: February 25, 2021  
**Rosemary A Saccomani**  
Register of Probate  
03/05/2021

Commonwealth of  
Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Hampden Probate and  
Family Court  
50 State Street  
Springfield, MA 01103  
(413)748-7758  
Docket No. HD21C0029CA  
In the matter of:  
Emma Jean Maciaszek  
CITATION ON PETITION  
TO CHANGE NAME

A **Petition to Change Name of Adult** has been filed by **Emma Jean Maciaszek of Chicopee, MA** requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to:

**Icarus Kamukura Hinata**  
**IMPORTANT NOTICE**

Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: **Hampden Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 03/18/2021.**

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding.

WITNESS, Hon. **Barbara M Hyland**, First Justice of this Court.  
Date: February 11, 2021  
**Rosemary A Saccomani**  
Register of Probate  
03/05/2021

Commonwealth of  
Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Hampden Probate and  
Family Court  
50 State Street  
Springfield, MA 01103  
(413)748-7758  
Docket No. HD21P0316EA  
Estate of:

**Emerson L Pursey**  
Date of Death: 01/29/2020  
CITATION ON  
PETITION FOR  
FORMAL  
ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons:  
A Petition for **Formal Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Ellen K Hersom**

of Florence, MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: **Ellen K Hersom** of Florence, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in an **unsupervised administration**.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**  
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 03/24/2021.**

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an Affidavit of Objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

**UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)**

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. **Barbara M Hyland**, First Justice of this Court.  
Date: February 24, 2021  
**Rosemary A Saccomani**  
Register of Probate  
03/05/2021

Commonwealth of  
Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Hampden Probate and  
Family Court  
50 State Street  
Springfield, MA 01103  
(413)748-7758  
Docket No. HD21P0328EA  
Estate of:

**Ruth Loretta Reese**  
Date of Death: 01/09/2021  
CITATION ON  
PETITION FOR  
FORMAL  
ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons:  
A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal**

**Representative** has been filed by **Richard C Reese** of Chicopee, MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: **Richard C Reese** of Chicopee, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in an **unsupervised administration**.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**  
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 03/25/2021.**

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an Affidavit of Objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

**UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)**

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. **Barbara M Hyland**, First Justice of this Court.  
Date: February 25, 2021  
**Rosemary A Saccomani**  
Register of Probate  
03/04/2021

Please check the accuracy of your legal notice prior to submission (i.e., date, time, spelling). Also, be sure the requested publication date coincides with the purpose of the notice, or as the law demands. Thank you.

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- 3 Find a quick link to the state of Massachusetts' public notice web site to search all notices in Massachusetts newspapers.

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visit [www.publicnotices.turley.com](http://www.publicnotices.turley.com)







## American International College named to 2021-2022 Military Friendly Schools list

SPRINGFIELD – American International College announced it has earned the 2021-2022 Military Friendly School designation.

Institutions earning the Military Friendly School designation were evaluated using both public data sources and responses from a proprietary survey. More than 1,200 schools participated in the 2021-2022 survey with 747 earning the designation.

The 2021-2022 Military Friendly Schools list will be published in the May issue of G.I. Jobs magazine and can be found at [www.militaryfriendly.com](http://www.militaryfriendly.com).

Methodology and criteria were determined by VIQTO-RY with input from the Military Friendly Advisory Council of independent leaders in the higher education and military recruitment community. Final ratings were determined by combining the institution's

survey response set and government/agency public data sources within a logic based scoring assessment. The institution's ability to meet thresholds for student retention, graduation, job placement, loan repayment, persistence (degree advancement or transfer) and loan default rates for all students are measured.

"American International College is proud to be recognized as an institution that assists men and women who serve our country," said AIC President Vince Maniaci. "The College appreciates the value of the many educational and leadership experiences that occur in the Armed Forces, and the excellent foundation that military service provides. In turn, we give transfer credits for students' time in the U.S. Army, Air Force, Navy, Marines, and Coast Guard, helping active duty service members and veterans get a head

start on earning their degrees."

"Military Friendly is committed to transparency and providing consistent data driven standards in our designation process. This creates a competitive atmosphere that encourages colleges to consistently evolve and invest in their programs. Schools who achieve designation show true commitment and dedication in their efforts," according to Kayla Lopez, national director of Military Partnerships for Military Friendly. "Our standards assist schools by providing a benchmark that promotes positive educational outcomes, resources, and support services that better the educational landscape and provide opportunity for the Military Community."

More information about AIC's commitment to attracting and supporting military students can be found online at [aic.edu](http://aic.edu).

## Local students named to Western New England University's Fall President's List

SPRINGFIELD – More than 500 students have been named to the Fall 2020 President's List at Western New England University. To qualify for the President's List, students must achieve a GPA of 3.80 or higher.

"Making the President's List is a notable achievement under any circumstances, but particularly so during the unique challenges of our fall semester. It is an honor to salute our students who have demonstrated an unwavering commitment to academic excellence," commented Dr. Robert E. Johnson, President.

The following students have earned their place on Western New England University's distinguished President's List:

Maherah Shaikh, of Chicopee, working toward a Pre-Pharmacy.

Ceara Wright, of Chicopee, working toward a BA in Psychology.

Tabarek Al-Kowami, of Chicopee, working toward a degree in Business.

Lyndsey Brennan, of Chicopee, working toward a BSBA in General Business.

Sarah Dziedzic, of Chicopee, working toward a Pre-Pharmacy.

Kaitlyn Lambert, of Chicopee, working toward a BS in Health Sciences.

Emma Laughlin, of Chicopee, working toward a BA in Communication/Public Relations Concentration.

Logan Los, of Chicopee, working toward a degree in Business.

Matthew Ramcke, of Chicopee, working toward a BA in Economics.

Michael Stanley, of Chicopee, working toward a BSE in Mechanical Engineering.

Julia Sudol, of Chicopee, working toward a BA in Political Science.

Graham Topor, of Chicopee, working toward a BA in Law & Society.

Daniel Wolf, of Chicopee, working toward a BSE in Computer Engineering.

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This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate that is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertising in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain about discrimination call The Department of Housing and Urban Development "HUD" toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. For the N.E. area, call HUD at 617-565-5308. The toll free number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

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# Elms College names students to Dean's List for Fall 2020 semester

CHICOPEE – The College of Our Lady of the Elms has named the following students to the dean's list for the fall 2020 semester of the 2020-2021 academic year. To qualify, a full-time student must earn a GPA of 3.5 or higher, without incompletes.

Students from Chicopee: Lucas Aube, Megan Clifford, Rosemary Costello, Gabrielle Delaney, Veronica Dinnell, Pedro Duarte, Summer Dwight, Richard Elmer, Natanya Furgal, Kinga Galecki, Charmian Gibbs, Ashley Girouard, Kaleigh Gordon-Ross, Victoria Guay, Nevada Haas, Kayla Harrison, Nicole Jaworski, Aleksandra Kagan, Brianna Kardisco, Mikayla Kenneson, Hannah Lafleur, Benjamin Laxton, Elizabeth Lolos, Kianna Lozada Pagan, Aimee Ludwin, Stephanie Minkos, Charley Mitchell, Megan O'Connell, Peace Ovabor, Diana Preston, Celina Rios, Karly Setterstrom, Marta Syper, Iqra Tahir, Madison Tighe, Caitlynn Tippet, Nalani Walker

# Kathia Barreto Ramos of Chicopee named to the University of Hartford's President's Honors List

WEST HARTFORD, Conn. – The University of Hartford is pleased to announce Kathia Barreto Ramos of Chicopee has been named to its President's Honors List for Fall 2020.

The President's Honors List is made up of an extremely select group of students who earned a grade point average of 3.75 or higher in the semester. This is the GPA that must be sustained over a full undergraduate career to qualify for a degree summa cum laude.

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# URI students named to the Fall 2020 Dean's List

KINGSTON, R.I. – The University of Rhode Island is pleased to announce the Fall 2020 Dean's List. The students represent nearly all of Rhode Island's cities and towns, all six New England states, New York and New Jersey, and many other states and countries. The following students from Chicopee were named to Dean's List:

Michael Baran  
Hailey Chapdelaine  
Madi Hartling  
Taryn Langlois

To be included on the Dean's List, full-time students must have completed 12 or more credits for letter grades during a semester and achieved at least a 3.30 quality point average. Part-time students qualify with the accumulation of 12 or more credits for letter grades earning at least a 3.30 quality point average.

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